Food shortage in coastal regions.

16. *Mr. James Fletcher: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether food scarcity is acute along the coastal area from Colachel to Chirayinkil; and

(*b*) whether arrangements have been made to distribute or ration food stuffs such as rice and tapioca to the poor fishing folk of the said coastal area ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: (*a*) The food scarcity is acute in all areas including the coastal tract in question.

(*b*) Arrangements for the distribution of rice all over the State have been made through the Revenue Officers. In regard to tapioca, it is proposed to arrange distribution through Anchal Masters in the coastal taluks, in the first instance.

Controlled Articles.

17. *Mr. K. M. Kesavan (*Karunagapally, Kartikapally and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertala*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have put any restraint on the Tahsildars from supplying the statement showing the receipt and distribution of controlled articles to the members of the "Taluk food control committee" constituted by them from the citizens of the taluk ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : Government are not aware of any such restraint.

Cement Factory.

18. *Mr. K. M. Kesavan : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have, during the current year, considered the question of starting a cement factory in Travancore ?

Mr. E. I. Chacko (*Diretor of Industries*) : Government have considered this question and are in favour of a Cement factory being started in Travancore. But no effective step can be taken in this direction until after the War.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

President : Order, order. I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Mr. V. Sankara Menon :

"I move that the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely the disparaging effect of certain unfounded statements contained in the 1942 Census Report of Travancore, which have cast aspersions on (1) the women-folk of Travancore following the Marumakkathayam system of inheritance and (2) the Sanathanists in their attitude towards the Temple Entry Proclamation and the urgent necessity for the immediate deletion of all such unfounded statements from the Census Report."

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly